A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO GENDER IDENTITY.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

| 1 | SECTION 1. Chapter 453J, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is |
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| 2 | amended by amending its title to read as follows: |
| 3 | "[+]CHAPTER 453J[+] |
| 4 | CONVERSION THERAPY PROHIBITED FOR SEXUAL ORIENTATION [CHANGE |
| 5 | EFFORTS] AND GENDER IDENTITY" |
| 6 | SECTION 2. Section 453J-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is |
| 7 | amended to read as follows: |
| 8 | "[-[]§453J-1[] Sexual orientation change efforts] |
| 9 | Conversion therapy prohibited; advertising prohibited. (a) No |
| 10 | person who is licensed to provide professional counseling shall: |
| 11 | (1) Engage in or attempt to engage in [sexual orientation |
| 12 | change efforts] conversion therapy on a person under |
| 13 | eighteen years of age; or |
| 14 | (2) Advertise the offering of [sexual orientation change |
| 15 | efforts] conversion therapy on a person under eighteen |
| 16 | years of age. |

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- 1 (b) Any person who is licensed to provide professional
- 2 counseling who engages in or attempts to engage in the offering
- 3 of [sexual orientation change efforts] conversion therapy on a
- 4 person under eighteen years of age shall be subject to
- 5 disciplinary action by the appropriate professional licensing
- 6 authority.
- 7 (c) For purposes of this section:
- 8 "Advertise" means a communication made by or on behalf of a
- 9 person who is licensed to provide professional counseling, made
- 10 for the purpose of inducing or promoting a professional
- 11 counseling relationship in which [sexual orientation change
- 12 efforts] conversion therapy will be undertaken on a person under
- 13 the age of eighteen. "Advertise" includes oral, written,
- 14 graphic, or pictorial statements or representations, including
- 15 those made through any electronic or print medium.
- 16 "Conversion therapy" means any practices or treatments that
- 17 seek to change an individual's sexual orientation or gender
- 18 identity, including efforts to change behaviors or gender
- 19 expressions or to eliminate or reduce sexual or romantic
- 20 attractions or feelings toward individuals of the same gender.

| 1 | "Conversion therapy" shall not include counseling that |
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| 2 | provides assistance to a person undergoing gender transition, or |
| 3 | counseling that provides acceptance, support, and understanding |
| 4 | of a person or facilitates a person's coping, social support, |
| 5 | and identity exploration and development, including sexual |
| 6 | orientation-neutral interventions to prevent or address unlawful |
| 7 | conduct or unsafe sexual practices, as long as such counseling |
| 8 | does not seek to change an individual's sexual orientation or |
| 9 | gender identity. |
| 10 | "Person who is licensed to provide professional counseling" |
| 11 | means a person who performs counseling as part of the person's |
| 12 | professional training, including a physician, especially one |
| 13 | practicing psychiatry, licensed pursuant to chapter 453; |
| 14 | psychologist licensed pursuant to chapter 465; nurse licensed |
| 15 | pursuant to chapter 457; social worker licensed pursuant to |
| 16 | chapter 467E; licensed mental health counselor licensed pursuant |
| 17 | to chapter 453D; or licensed marriage and family therapist |
| 18 | licensed pursuant to chapter 451J. |
| 19 | ["Sexual orientation change efforts" means the practice of |
| 20 | attempting to change a person's sexual orientation, including |
| 21 | but not limited to efforts to change gender identity or gender |

| 1 | expressions and behaviors; or to reduce or eliminate sexual or |
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| 2 | romantic attractions or feelings toward a person of the same |
| 3 | gender. |
| 4 | "Sexual orientation change efforts" shall not include |
| 5 | counseling supporting a person seeking to transition from one |
| 6 | gender to another or counseling that: |
| 7 | (1) Provides acceptance, support, and understanding of a |
| 8 | person or facilitates a person's coping, social |
| 9 | support, and identity exploration and development, |
| 10 | including sexual orientation-neutral interventions to |
| 11 | prevent or address unlawful conduct or unsafe sexual |
| 12 | practices; and |
| 13 | (2) Does not seek to change sexual orientation, gender |
| 14 | identity, or gender expression.] " |
| 15 | SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed |
| 16 | and stricken. New statutory material is underscored. |
| 17 | SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2019. |

Report Title:

Conversion Therapy; Prohibited; Gender Identity

Description:

Clarifies that the ban on sexual orientation change efforts applies to conversion therapy practices or treatments that seek to change an individual's sexual orientation or gender identity. (SD1)

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